

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:929
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2008
DEATH SENTENCE TO CRIMINALS
Singh Shri Mohan

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of criminals awarded death sentence by various courts in the country during each of the last three years and in the current year, as on date;
- (b) whether some persons have not been executed even after their death sentences were upheld by the Supreme Court during the last three years; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS(SMT. RADHIKA V. SELVI)

- (a): The number of criminals awarded death sentences by various courts in the country during the period 2004 to 2006 is annexed. Information for the period thereafter is not readily available.
- (b) & (c): Yes, Sir. After the appeals to the Courts are exhausted, a condemned prisoner can file a mercy petition under Article 72 of the Constitution to the President of India and under Article 161 of the Constitution to the Governor of the concerned State for grant of pardon. The death sentence in such cases is not executed till the decision on the petitions has been arrived at. The power under Article 72 of the Constitution does not contain any limitation as to the time in which power conferred might be exercised.